August 26, 2008

Ald. Bob Donovan (414) 708-2096

<u>MEDIA ADVISORY</u>

District Attorney Asked to Probe Allegations Against MPS Board Member Charlene Hardin

Ald. Bob Donovan has formally asked **Milwaukee County District Attorney John Chisholm** to look into allegations that MPS board of school directors member Charlene Hardin and an MPS staffer failed to attend a three-day school safety conference they traveled to Philadelphia for last month.

In the letter (see attached) Ald. Donovan, chair of the Common Council's Public Safety Committee, asks Chisholm to conduct a formal investigation into the allegations that Hardin and MPS staff member Lolita Pearson failed to attend the functions during the July 14-16 National Association of School Safety & Law Enforcement Officers conference. "The taxpayers of this city have a right to know the truth, and given the tight budgets that the City of Milwaukee and MPS are facing, alleged behavior such as this needs to be investigated and prosecuted," he states in the letter.

"The taxpayers deserve to know whether their money is being spent wisely, and if these allegations are true I strongly hope that Ms. Hardin and the staff member are required to pay the money back and that they are prosecuted to the fullest possible extent under the law," the alderman said.